

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 /019 R

DRAFTED BY PA:BLINEBERRY:BL

APPROVED BY PA/M:WJDYESS

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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O P 211631Z SEP 76 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 233880 TOSEC 270452

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT DAVID WILLIS FRONT PAGE BY-LINER
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21,
HEADED "BREZHNEV DISAPPOINTED OVER SALT PACT SNAG."

2. MOSCOW--SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER LEONID I.
BREZHNEV IS "DISAPPOINTED" THAT A SECOND AGREEMENT ON
LIMITING STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS (SALT) HAS NOT YET BEEN
REACHED WITH THE UNITED STATES.

3. HE SAID THIS DURING A TWO AND THREE-QUARTER-HOUR
INTERVIEW WITH FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE SOVIET
UNION W. AVERELL HARRIMAN, WHO IS A FOREIGN POLICY
ADVISER TO DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
JIMMY CARTER.

4. MR. HARRIMAN TOLD THIS CORRESPONDENT THAT MR.BREZHNEV:

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5. FAVORS SETTING A FIXED CEILING ON STRATEGIC NUCLEAR

ARMS, THEN NEGOTIATING LATER TO LOWER IT.

6. AGREES THAT PLANS TO FIGHT A "LIMITED" NUCLEAR WAR ARE UNREALISTIC, AS ANY KIND OF NUCLEAR WAR WOULD INEVITABLY DESTROY ALL INVOLVED.

7. INSISTS THE SOVIET UNION IS NOT PLANNING TO STRIKE FIRST IN ANY NUCLEAR WAR.

8. WANTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT FORD AND MR. CARTER MIGHT MEAN FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

9. APPEARS IN GOOD HEALTH AND SAYS THAT AILING PREMIER ALEXEI N. KOSYGIN WILL BE BACK AT HIS DESK WITHIN A FEW WEEKS.

10. MR. HARRIMAN, WHO HAS KNOWN MR. BREZHNEV FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS, IS HERE ON A PRIVATE VISIT WHICH HE IS USING TO EXPLAIN AND DEFEND THE FOREIGN POLICIES OF MR. CARTER.

11. MR. HARRIMAN SAID IT IS A MISTAKE TO VIEW MR. BREZHNEV AS A MAN WHO CAN "CHOP AND CHANGE" ATTITUDES TOWARD NUCLEAR WAR SIMPLY BECAUSE HE IS A "COMMUNIST POLITICIAN."

12. "HE HAS TAKEN A TREMENDOUS COMMITMENT TO EASE POLITICAL TENSIONS, TO DELIVER IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.," MR. HARRIMAN SAID.

13. "ALSO, TO CONTROL THE CHANCES OF NUCLEAR WAR. I COMMENDED HIM FOR HIS CONSTANT REITERATION OF HIS DESIRE FOR PEACE."

14. MR. HARRIMAN SAID HE GAVE MR. CARTER'S VIEW THAT PREPARATIONS TO FIGHT A LIMITED NUCLEAR WAR, SUPPORTED BY SOME ELEMENTS WITHIN THE PENTAGON, ARE UNREALISTIC. HE SAID MR. BREZHNEV HAS AGREED.

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15. THE SOVIET LEADER EXPRESSED NO PREFERENCES BETWEEN MR. FORD AND MR. CARTER BUT CITED QUOTATIONS FROM THE SPEECHES OF BOTH CANDIDATES. "I TRIED TO EXPLAIN THE WORKINGS OF THE CAMPAIGN," MR. HARRIMAN SAID, "AND TOLD HIM NOT TO PAY TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO THE RHETORIC AND THAT CANDIDATES ARE TALKING TO SPECIFIC GROUPS AND NOT ALWAYS ABOUT FOREIGN POLICY (IN THE BROAD SENSE)."

16. MR. BREZHNEV SEEMED TO HAVE NO TRACE OF FACIAL OR OTHER DIFFICULTIES ATTRIBUTED TO HIM AT TIMES IN RECENT YEARS. NOR DID HE DIVULGE THE NATURE OF MR. KOSYGIN'S INDISPOSITION.

17. PRESS REPORTS RECENTLY SAID MR. KOSYGIN HAD A HEART ATTACK OR A STROKE WHILE SWIMMING EARLIER IN THE SUMMER.

18. MR. HARRIMAN SAID HE FEELS IT IS GETTING "AWFULLY LATE" TO EXPECT A NEW STRATEGIC-ARMS AGREEMENT BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 2 ELECTION. AT VLADIVOSTOK, PRESINT FORD AND MR. BREZHNEV PROVISIONALLY AGREED TO LIMIT STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS, INCLUDING LONG-RANGE BOMBERS, TO 2,400.

19. THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS SAID THE HARRIMAN-BREZHNEV MEETING WAS HELD "IN A FRANK AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE," WORDING THAT USUALLY INDICATES THAT SOME CRITICISM AND DISAGREEMENTS WERE AIRED. MR. HARRIMAN THINKS, FOR INSTANCE, THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE MISREPRESENTED SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER'S AIMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. END TEXT. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE233880
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BLINEBERRY:BL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760356-0800
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760936/aaaabele.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <11 JAN 2005 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (WILLIS, DAVID)
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006